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ABSTRACT

School leaders are provided with a map for implementing character education. Using the travel metaphor, the book divides the reader's journey through reform into tour stops. Each stop contains a list of helpful sources, including Internet sites. Tour Stop 1 reviews a comprehensive framework formed after studying successful character education programs. Tour Stop 2 helps the administrator plan, with the input of all stakeholders, on the core values underpinning the program. Tour Stop 3 offers important ideas about the responsibilities, the leadership, and the vision of the program's leader as well as the program's mission, goals, and expectations. Tour Stop 4 addresses the kind of school climate that supports the program. Tour Stop 5 reflects on the strategies and instructional methods used in teaching the core values to foster character development of students. Tour Stop 6 presents the training of school personnel about the need for a character program and the preparation needed to realize the program. Tour Stop 7 describes the central elements of a character program, including schoolwide activities, curricular and co-curricular concerns, and specific character education programs. Tour Stop 8 is about forming relationships that will support the program. Tour Stop 9 offers guidelines and examples for evaluating a school's character education initiatives. (Contains 155 references.) (RKJ)

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